During the period 1.1.97 to 30.6.97, 42 claims for refunds have been filed and all these cases have since been settled and payment arranged to the parties. Details of these cases are attached as Statement.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Statement

Sl.No.	Case No.	Amount Paid (in Rs.)
1	2	3
1.	23/2680	336/-
2.	23/2681	138/-
3.	16/2768	66/-
4.	16/2775	35/-
5.	7/5498	268/-
6.	7/5499	268/-
7.	7/5500	268/-
8.	7/5492	268/-
9.	7/5493	268/-
10.	7/5494	268/-
11.	7/5509	536/-
12.	7/5513	804/-
13.	7/5514	268/-
14.	7/5575	268/-
15.	7/5576	268/-
16.	7/5518	268/-
17.	7/5520	536/-
18.	7/5523	268/-
19.	7/5525	536/-
20.	7/5536	804/-
21.	7/5541	268/-
22.	7/5542	536/-
23.	7/5543	268/-
24.	7/5545	536/-
25.	7/5607	165/-
26.	7/5619	268/-
27.	7/5691	268/-
28.	7/5638	536/-
29.	7/5575	536/-
30.	9/2237	420/-
31.	9/2135	299/-
32.	13/9873	393/-
33.	13/9874	360/-
34.	13/9860	128/-
35.	12/9855	390/-
36.	12/4440	306/-
37.	10/787	648/-
38.	10/817	280/-
39.	4/6723	233/-
40.	9/2261	151/-
41.	9/2223	338/-
42.	9/2239	220/-
	total	14226/-

[Translation]

Allotment of Fund By Doordarshan for Production of Tele-Films

2449. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 368 dated July 24, 1997 regarding allotment of fund by Doordarshan for production of telefilms and state:

(a) the details of the members of the Costing Committee;

(b) the time limit for convening the meeting of Costing Committee; and

(c) the number of meetings of this Committee held during the period from 1.9.96 to 15.7.97?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) The Costing Committee is headed by the Director General, Doordarshan and consists of the following official members of Doordarshan:

1. Additional Director General (A)
2. Director (Finance)
3. Concerned Dy. Director General
4. Concerned Controller of Programmes
5. Controller of Programmes (Central Commissioning Unit)

(b) No time limit has been fixed in the guidelines issued for this purpose for convening the meeting of the Costing Committee. This is held periodically on the basis of the proposals in hand, programme requirements of Doordarshan and availability of funds for commissioning of the programmes.

(c) During this period, the Costing Committee held six meetings.

[English]

Internet Service

2450. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some leading telecom companies have applied to the DOT to become Internet Service Providers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to float tenders for Internet Service Providers licences;

(d) if so, the time by which these tenders are likely to be floated;

(e) the criteria fixed for issuing licences to Internet Services Providers (ISP); and

(f) the extent to which these ISPs are likely to be helpful in providing better telecom services in India?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (e) A policy decision has been taken by the Telecom Commission to allow Indian Registered Companies to provide Internet Service in the country as 'Internet Service Providers'. The modalities and Terms and Conditions for this are being worked out. Thereafter, proposals shall be invited for award of licences for 'Internet Services'.

(f) It is excepted that participation by licensed ISPs will generate healthy competition in the field of Internet Services which will help the ultimate customer to get better service. This will also result in faster growth of this service all over the country.

[Translation]

Supply of Limestone

2451. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Raw Material Division of SAIL has fixed a target of supplying 2,44,000 tonnes of limestone annually to Bokaro Steel Plant from Lime Stone Mines located at Bhavnathpur;

(b) if so, the reasons for supplying 10,000 tonnes limestone per month to Bokaro Steel Plant;

(c) the reasons for puchasing substandard limestone from open market on higher rate by Bokaro Steel Plant;

(d) whether short intake of raw material from Bhavnathpur Lime Stone Mines is not likely to have adverse impact on the mines with which the livelihood of about fifty thousand people is linked directly or indirectly; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

Appointment on Compassionate Grounds

2452. DR. BALI RAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether employees of different branches of Post Offices in Meerut (U.P) expired in 1995 while in service,

(b) whether the dependents of the deceased employees belonging to general category have been given jobs on compassionate ground whereas Scheduled Castes emplyees have not been given job till date;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the dependents of the deceased Scheduled Castes employees is likely to be given job?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) While admitting the position, it is clarified that the caste to which the deceased employee belonged in no way determined granting of employment to his dependent which is governed by the rules framed in this behalf by the Department of Personnel, the nodal department concerned with the subject.

(c) The case for giving compassionate appointments to one of the dependents of the deceased employee who belonged to the Scheduled Caste community was duly considered as per the prescribed procedure and was rejected twice by the Chief PMG, UP Circle, Lucknow under proper intimation to the family of the deceased that their family circumstances were not found to be indigent.

(d) The representation of the widow of the deceased employee against rejection of the case for appointment on compassionate grounds is under examination at the appropriate level and will be decided shortly.